

**Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement (~~20; 30; 40; 50~~) for screening radiation emitted by a radiation source, in particular an X-ray source ~~[[ (3) ]]~~, having

a screening element (~~22, 23; 32a, 33a-e; 42, 43; 52~~) which comprises or includes a radiation protection material, and

a cover (~~24; 25; 34a, 35a-e; 44, 45; 54~~) which is matched in shape to the screening element (~~22, 23; 32a, 33a-e; 42, 43; 52~~) and completely surrounds the latter, it being possible to pull the cover (~~24, 25; 34a, 35a-e; 44, 45; 54~~) over the screening element (~~22, 23; 32a, 33a-e; 42, 43; 52~~) and completely separate it therefrom.

2. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 1,

~~characterized in that~~wherein

the cover (~~24, 25; 34a, 35a-e; 44, 45; 54~~) comprises a material which can be sterilized using a suitable device or a suitable process.

3. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 1 ~~[[ or 2 ]]~~,

~~characterized in that~~wherein

for the purpose of altering the length, the cover (~~24, 25; 34a, 35a-e; 44, 45; 54~~), with the screening element (~~22, 23; 32a, 33a-e; 42, 43; 52~~) arranged therein, can be turned up in at least one direction and fixed in the turned-up arrangement using a fixing device (~~27; 37, 38, 39; 47~~).

4. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 3,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein

the fixing device is formed by press studs ~~(27; 37; 47)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 3,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein

the fixing device is formed by a hook-and-burr closure[[ (38)].

6. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 3,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein

the fixing device is formed by a tie closure [[(39)]].

7. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to ~~one of the preceding~~  
~~claims~~Claim 1, wherein

~~characterized in that~~

the cover ~~(24, 25; 34a, 35a-e; 44, 45; 54)~~ has means for securing it to a carrier element  
~~(21, 31a-e, 41)~~ which holds the screening element ~~(22, 23; 32a, 33a-e; 42, 43; 52)~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 7  
~~characterized in that~~wherein

the means for securing are tapes [[(26)]].

9. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 7,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein

the means for securing are press studs.

10. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 7,

~~characterized in that~~wherein

the means for securing are hook-and-burr closures.

11. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to ~~one of the preceding~~

~~claims~~Claim 1, wherein

~~characterized in that~~

the screening element is formed by a single blanket (~~23, 33a-e, 52~~) which includes an X-ray screening material, and the cover is formed by a sheath (~~25, 35a-e, 54~~) which is matched in its dimensions to the blanket (~~23, 33a-e, 52~~) and is open to one side.

12. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to ~~one of Claims 1-~~

~~10,~~Claim 1, wherein

~~characterized in that~~

the screening element comprises a plurality of slats ~~[[ (43) ]]~~ arranged next to one another and including an X-ray screening material and are secured at one end to a common carrier element~~[[ (41) ]]~~,

the cover having a plurality of elongate sheaths ~~[[ (45) ]]~~for receiving a respective slat ~~[[ (43) ]]~~ and connected to one another at one end by way of a common cuff~~[[ (45a) ]]~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 12,

~~characterized in that~~wherein

the slats[[ (43)]] are arranged such that they overlap.

14. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to ~~one of Claims 3 to 6~~  
~~and Claim 12 or 13, wherein~~  
~~characterized in that~~

each sheath[[ (45)]] has its own fixing device[[ (47)]] for the purpose of altering the  
length.

15. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to ~~one of the preceding~~  
~~claims~~Claim 1, wherein  
~~characterized in that~~

the screening element ~~(22, 23; 32a, 33a-c; 42, 43; 52)~~ includes a lead sheet or lead rubber  
blanket surrounded by a PVC cover.

16. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to Claim 15,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein

the screening element ~~(22, 23; 32a, 33a-c; 42, 43; 52)~~ has a lead equivalence value of  
approximately 0.5 mm.

17. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to ~~one of the preceding~~  
~~claims~~Claim 1, wherein  
~~characterized in that~~

it is arranged on the underside of a radiation protection panel [[[6)]]].

18. (Currently Amended) A radiation protection arrangement according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 16~~Claim 1, wherein  
~~characterized in that~~

it forms a lower body protection arranged to the side of a medical operating or treatment table[[ (2)].

19. (Currently Amended) A cover (~~24, 25; 34a, 35a-e; 44, 45; 54~~) for a screening element (~~22, 23; 32a, 33a-e; 42, 43; 52~~) which comprises or includes a radiation protection material and is provided for use in a radiation protection arrangement (~~20; 30; 40; 50~~) for screening radiation emitted by a radiation source, in particular an X-ray source[[ (3)], the cover (~~24, 25; 34a, 35a-e; 44, 45, 54~~) being constructed such that it can be pulled over the screening element (~~22, 23; 32a, 33a-e; 42, 43; 52~~) and completely separated therefrom again.

20. (Currently Amended) A cover according to Claim 19,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein

the cover (~~24, 25; 34a, 35a-e; 44, 45; 54~~) comprises a material which can be sterilized using a suitable device or a suitable process.

21. (Currently Amended) A cover according to Claim 19[[ or 20]],  
~~characterized in that~~wherein

for the purpose of altering the length, the cover can be turned up in at least one direction and fixed in the turned-up arrangement using a fixing device (~~27; 37, 38, 39; 47~~).

22. (Currently Amended) A cover according to ~~one of Claims 19 to 21~~,

~~characterized in that~~Claim 19, wherein

the cover is a sheath (~~25, 35a-e, 54~~) which is matched in its dimensions to the screening element (~~22, 23; 32a, 33a-e; 42, 43; 52~~) and is open to one side.

23. (Currently Amended) A cover according to ~~one of Claims 19 to 21,~~

~~characterized in that~~Claim 19, wherein

the cover has a plurality of elongate sheaths[[ (45)]] which are connected to one another at one end by way of a common cuff[[ (45a)]]].

24. (Currently Amended) A cover according to ~~Claims 21 and 23,~~

~~characterized in that~~Claim 23, wherein

each sheath[[ (45)]] has its own fixing device[[ (47)]] for the purpose of altering the length.